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# New York Law School Reporter, February 1997

New York Law School

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# THE NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL REPORTER

STUDENT LAW JOURNAL

ESTABLISHED 1984

## MR. ROTHSCILD'S CLASSY FAREWELL

By Hansen Alexander

Mr. Donald P. Rothschild, a pioneer in consumer law and professor at New York Law School since 1989, retired on December 5. Rothschild taught Alternative Dispute Resolution, Commercial Transactions, Employment Law, and Labor Relations Law.

Dean Wellington called Rothschild "a great asset in every way."

"He was a wonderful teacher and marvelous colleague," Wellington added.

Professor James F. Simon called Rothschild "a great human being."

Jessica Klafter, a member of law review, said, "I was thrilled to have him as a professor. He is one of the most incredible people I've ever known."

One of the nation's leading labor lawyers, Rothschild was a presidential appointee to the Advisory Council on Rules and Regulations of Practice and Procedure at the Federal Trade Commission, was elected to the National Academy of Arbiters and served on the Board of Directors of the National Consumers League. His publications included the books *Fundamentals of Administrative Practices & Procedures*, 1981, and *Collective Bargaining & Labor Arbitration*, 1988. In 1992 the Donald Phillip Rothschild Research Professor of Law was established at George Washington University.

**"I was so upset when I heard he was retiring that I went to his office and begged him to stay."**

News of Rothschild's retirement stunned many students. "I was disappointed he retired because I had planned to take other classes from him," said Philip Caal. Frobel Chungata said, "It's sad he retired because I would have recommended him to other students." Jessica Klafter, who took both Alternative Dispute Resolution and Commer-

cial Transactions from Rothschild, said, "I was so upset when I heard he was retiring that I went to his office and begged him to stay."

Dean Wellington also tried to persuade Rothschild to stay. "I did my best to talk him out of retirement," Wellington said. "I had been successful in getting him to put it off for a while."

"I told him he's going to miss this place, that this place wouldn't be the same without him and he wouldn't be the same without this place. The door is open. I've said that to him. I'd love to have him back," Wellington said.

Although he spent much of his teaching



Mr. Rothschild, shown here with his wife, will now sail off into the sunset, leaving behind many friends at NYLS.

career on the cutting edge of law to protect consumers at the National Law Center of George Washington University, Rothschild was an old fashioned gentleman who preferred to be called simply "Mister" Rothschild rather than the more exalted "Professor."

Rothschild retired from George Washington's National Law Center in 1989 and moved to Rhode Island. He became Of counsel to the Providence firm Tillinghast, Collins & Graham. But that was not enough for the passionately energetic Rothschild.

"He wanted to have 16 things to do in retirement," said Professor Simon, NYLS's dean at the time, who takes great pride in his role in helping to bring Rothschild to New York Law School.

"I think he was one of the great catches," Simon said.

Rothschild, said Dean Wellington, is "an extremely able labor lawyer" who was very versatile in teaching.

Professor Simon noted that in addition to his teaching, Rothschild served on the committee that developed the lawyering center education at NYLS.

Rothschild, who earned his J.D. at night at the Toledo College of Law, exhibited a modest, humble, respectful demeanor towards his students. He never, ever lost his patience. He constantly urged his students to ask about anything they did not understand. "There is no such thing as a stupid question," he said in almost every class.

His final Commercial Transactions lecture concluded with an emotional farewell to 30 years of teaching. He said he was retiring because he loved sailing so much and then declared gener-

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## Nepotism in Moot Court: Dissension in the Ranks

By Frank Ng

For many of us paying ten thousand dollars per semester in tuition, it would be desirable to have part of our tuition subsidized by the School. Moot Court Executive Board members enjoy that privilege. In addition to the tuition subsidy, Moot Court Executive Board Members receive two school credits. These credits are not limited by the four credit ceiling of basic moot court participation. Thus, members of the Executive Board receive up to six credits for their participation.

Wow, part tuition and school credit. That's great! Now how does a student get on the Moot Court Executive Board? New Executive Board members are chosen by the members of the current Board.

What criteria do the current Board members use in choosing new members? According to a number of Moot Court members, rather than the selection process being merit-based, Board members select their friends. Moot Court participants are rated on a scoring system based on merit. Moot Court members have complained that they were denied slots on the Board while friends of

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The Reporter welcomes submissions from all students, faculty, alumni, staff, and other members of the legal community. All contributions are given high regard, and any input is welcomed.

All contributors are given the opportunity to review their submissions before the newspaper is published, subject to considerations of time and practicality. Our editors, at the request of the contributor, can assist with formulating and writing an article.

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# Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I am a third year evening student at New York Law School. On Wednesday, January 15, I was trapped in the elevator of the B building for one hour and twenty minutes. I got on the elevator at 5:00 p.m. on my way to the third floor when the elevator completely stopped, apparently somewhere between the second and third floors. I immediately called for help and a student told me that she had called security.

## Trapped in the Elevator

Security showed up about ten minutes later. After that appearance, no one bothered to inform me about what steps were being taken to remedy the situation. Apparently, someone from the Maintenance Department was trying to get the elevator moving again, but I was not informed until 5:30 p.m. that a mechanic had been called by Professor Teitel.

The mechanic did not show up until well after 6:00 p.m. In the meantime, over one half hour had elapsed and no one from either Security or Maintenance bothered to communicate with me

and let me know what steps were being taken, and a half hour elapsed before a mechanic was even called. Finally, at 6:10 p.m., someone, apparently from Security, communicated with me and told me that the mechanic would have me out in a couple of minutes. At about 6:20 p.m., I was finally able to leave the elevator at the second floor.

My biggest concern was why the mechanic was not called right away. The fact that I was trapped in an elevator for one hour and twenty minutes is completely unacceptable to me. If there had been an emergency or a fire at the school, I would have been trapped in an elevator unable to reach safety. Apparently, the Security and Maintenance Departments have very little regard for the safety of the students. This type of behavior should not be tolerated.

Sincerely,  
Isabel Truyol

Dear Isabel,

*I can feel your pain. To build a bridge to the 21st century we must be able to ride the elevators here at NYLS without fear or apprehension. I am sure that we are not the only ones who now feel somewhat more uncomfortable about taking elevators. (Especially those who take the elevator to the second floor or mezzanine level out of laziness) In my opinion, it's just not worth the risk; I say walk it.*

Dear Editor,

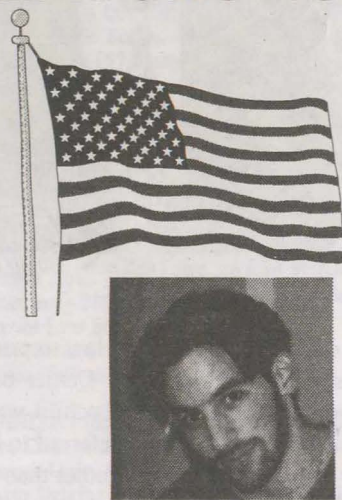
Can section A please Shut Up!!!!!! I really didn't sell my soul to the bank for \$100,000 to listen to anyone other than the professor speak in class. Maybe money, education, and a future means nothing to you, but some of us really care about these things and not whatever you're talking about in your distracting little conversations, or what's causing the 45 minute giggling sessions. Be mature enough to have a private conversation outside of class or pass a note - but have a little courtesy for those of us who feel that this is a serious endeavor that's worth the time and money!!!

Sincerely,  
Pu Tush

Dear Tush,

**BRAVO!! Good point!**

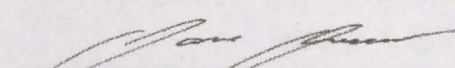
## EDITOR'S NOTE



The level of apathy at this school is disappointing and unsettling. A semester has passed since I was handed the reins of the Reporter, and from my perspective the level of participation by students and faculty has been almost nonexistent.

At the beginning of the fall semester, I wrote letters to every professor, office and department asking for contributions, involvement, or suggestions. I did not receive a single response. Students were similarly disinterested in getting involved with the Reporter. The dedicated few writers who are involved deserve much credit for maintaining their enthusiasm in such an indifferent environment.

Law school is obviously a stressful and hectic environment, but occasionally it is healthy to take an interest in your school. Get involved. If not with the Reporter, then with one of the many other student organizations to make this a better experience for all of us.

  
David Drossman, Editor-in-Chief

**Article  
Submission  
Deadline for the  
March Issue  
is Friday,  
February 28**



## DISSENTION, Continued from Page 1

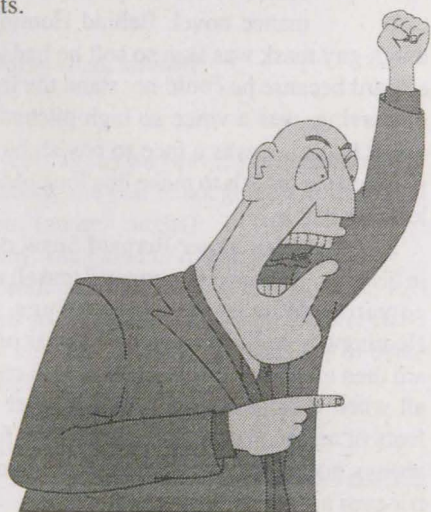
Board members with lower scores were selected. "It's a sham," students have said, "they can just pick their friends to serve on the Board and the rest of us are paying their tuition for them."

Members contend that they work harder and scored higher than the friends of the members that just skate into the slots. It's difficult enough struggling to turn out a presentable brief only to be sabotaged by office politics. Members should be placed on the Board according to scores, not unlike the GPA-based process used by the journals. Alternatively, some suggest that all members, not just the Executive Board, vote for new Board members.

## Rather than the selection process being merit-based, Moot Court Executive Board members select their friends.

Is it fair for the other students to foot the bill for the executive board members? Why should board members choose their successors? Why not have the entire moot court vote on board members?

Professor Arnold Levine, member of the 1993 Moot Court team that came in third nationwide and former executive board member, takes a different view. There are moot court members who work their asses off to get a brief out on time; they cut class, don't shower for days and jeopardize their class ranking for the good of the team. Perhaps they may not have scored as high as another person in a competition, but they've committed themselves to moot court. That's why the executive board has discretion in the selection of board members. Between a member that entered a and scored well and a member that sacrificed some blood and guts, I'd rather have the latter on my team. As for the idea that all members have a vote, Levine believes that if all members were given a vote, they would be voting on members they don't know, referring to those members that participate in a single competition and are not in the moot court office otherwise. If it were just a numbers game, there wouldn't be a selection process at all. The top scorers would be on the board. It would be like law review. New York Law School is nationally recognized for its exceptional moot court team, not for its law review. Notwithstanding these views, discretion will always pave the way for favoritism. This author is going to sign up for timekeeper to score brownie points.



# Controversy Over New SBA Constitution

By Karen Berliner



This past summer the SBA ratified a new Constitution. One of the provisions in this Constitution requires that there be open memberships in all student organizations. This applies to executive boards of student organizations as well. Although "evenness" in all organizations might seem exemplary and ideal, this provision of the new Constitution topples the structure of certain school organizations such as BALSA.

BALSA has filed a complaint with the SBA claiming that the new Constitution conflicts with their charter. This week, a judicial committee composed of students will be taking a vote to determine whether the new Constitution is legally viable. A complaint was initially brought by an evening student last semester, who claimed there were not enough polls available, and that many students did not have a chance to vote. Andrew

Spence, an SBA Senator, objected to the way the new Constitution was passed, claiming that it was suspect and that the SBA exceeded its powers in the measures it took to write and ratify a new Constitution.

*Although "evenness" in all organizations might seem exemplary and ideal, this provision of the new Constitution topples the structure of certain school organizations such as BALSA.*

BALSA has its own Constitution, as do many other student organizations. BALSA is a nationally recognized organization and BALSA's Constitution has been recognized by New York Law School. In order to sit on BALSA's executive board, you must be at least one-eighth black. In the past, and under the previous Constitution, this was not problematic. Now, BALSA is con-

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# LOVE IN THE AFTERNOON

## The Passions of Ernest Hemingway at Valentine's Day

by Hansen Alexander

The camera panned over the Italian Alps at first light as the soldiers who looked like Professor Cerruti bravely charged with drawn bayonets and blood flowed more freely than the feel good individualism in an Ayn Rand novel, and Ernie Hemingway rode his bicycle to the foxholes, where he passed out cigarettes and told tall tales before he carried the wounded Cerruti, and the Austrian shrapnel tore up his knee and kid Hem dropped to the ground like he'd just been hit by one of Professor Gross's exams, and thus gained the experience to write active tense stories that pleased legal writing instructors, and truly fell in love with the beautiful American nurse Sandra Bullock, who broke his heart by marrying some foreigner.

No, this is not a movie review, although Richard Attenborough has produced a movie about Ernest Hemingway's first love, Agnes Von Kurowsky. I don't want to spend a lot of time discussing two good looking young actors like Sandra Bullock and Chris O'Donnell, who aren't going to die in time for me to fit them into my next bad novel.

If I wanted to write a movie review I wouldn't be evaluating O'Donnell, who comes from the Tom Cruise school of fabulous acting teeth anyway. No, I'd be giving you 800,000 words on Kristin Scott Thomas rising out of the bathtub in "The English Patient."

I'm here simply to write a good and true article about Ernest Hemingway, who was an effective boxer against opponents in lower weight classes and an old fashioned sort of guy, who married the women he loved rather than just showering them with beautiful outlines.

In the cynical, fearful, doubtful 1990s, which looks through the prism of history a lot like the Victorian 1890s, when men, women, governments, religions and businesses are confused about their roles, when Madonna thinks she's Marilyn Monroe and Antonio Banderas thinks he's Joel Denaro, an exaggerated account of an ambitious, romantic, boastful, ultra sensitive man, and kind, decent, romantic woman makes for a powerful love story.

Dismissed as an overly macho, overrated, creator of shallow characters in the midst of the rise of the feminist movement in the 1970s, Hemingway's reputation as writer and man has reemerged like an undetected, underground volcano in the 90s.

Literary scholars now understand that most of Hemingway's meaning, and indeed depth of character, was more implied and was purposely kept under the surface of the stories.

The admission by Simone de Beauvoir, the mother of modern feminism and the author of the *Mandarins*, considered the best novel written in Europe since World War II, that she modeled her own style after Hemingway, has put him in a new

light among feminist critics.

The most important development, however, in the reevaluation of Hemingway was the posthumous publication of his novel, *The Garden of Eden*, which is absent the usual macho posturings.

Recent research also shows that while Hemingway told a lot of fibs, he also told the truth a lot more often than he was credited with. The literary world had long disbelieved the seriousness of his war wounds, the seriousness of Agnes' feelings for him or that he had ever really made love to Agnes. But recently found letters between Agnes and Ernest more or less confirm his version of their love affair, including the implication of a sexual union. Researchers also found Hemingway's medical charts and war records, which confirmed that doctors considered his leg wound serious enough to amputate and confirmed that Hemingway did not exaggerate his own battle bravery after all.

The movie *In Love and War* employs dramatic license liberally in its concluding scene when Agnes Von Kurowsky comes to visit Hemingway

first love and recreated her as Catherine Barkley in *A Farewell to Arms*, he soon met his first wife, Hadley Richardson. And Hadley, not Agnes, would haunt Hemingway for the rest of his life through four marriages.

While Hadley was a sensitive and warm woman, Agnes was actually insensitive and emotionally reserved, like Hemingway's mother.

The Attenborough movie shows Hemingway's mother praising Ernest to the local Oak Park, Illinois press. In fact, his mother was insanely jealous of Ernest and badmouthed him to the press or anyone else who would listen to her.

Their correspondence, which is considered so sensitive by Hemingway's estate that it is off limits to scholars until well into the 21st century, is labeled classified information at the Humanities Research Center at the University of Texas. Nevertheless, I have read the letters. They are bitter, biting, sarcastic, cynical and hateful.

My access to the Hemingway letters was obtained while researching the early manuscripts and letters of another great American writer, Tennessee Williams. Williams' best plays were inspired by Frank Merlo, the love of his life, and his writing fell into a long decline upon Merlo's death in 1953.

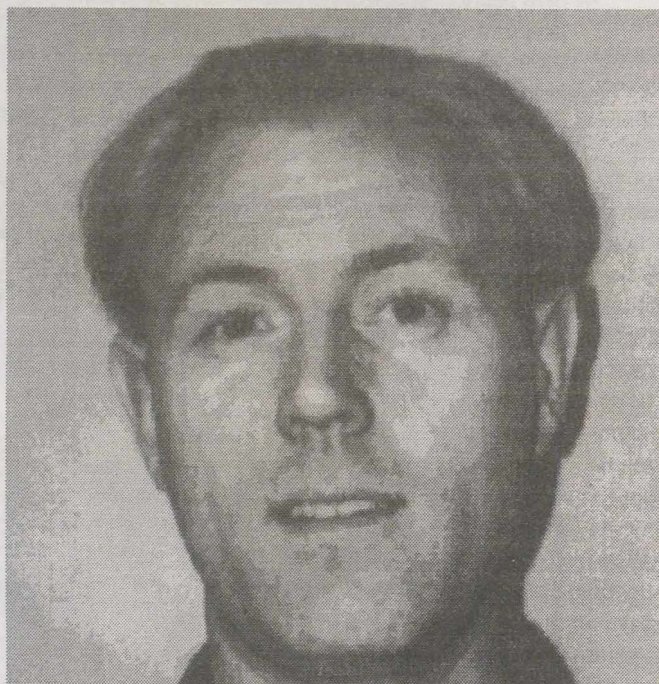
The story of Ernest Hemingway and Agnes von Kurowsky demonstrates the enduring power of love. As Attenborough said to *The New York Times* on January 26, "Do you think the anger and frustration and humiliation he suffered in his belly for so many years in regard to being turned down, which drove him and fired him, would still be there?"

Like Faulkner, Hemingway understood that a writer must "write from the heart instead of the glands." Love is the oil that probably fuels most art, and Attenborough is probably correct when he asserts that the painful memory of Hemingway's love for Agnes von Kurowsky did as much to make him the most famous writer of the 20th century as avoiding the tedium of law school.

Chaucer waxed cynical when his Prioress exclaimed, "Love conquers all," but like the ace in a pack of cards, true love does have a remarkable tendency to trump the rest of the deck. In the tragic losses in love and war and work of Hemingway's characters lurks the untamed male brutes of the early chapters of a romance novel. Behind Hemingway's

tough guy mask was skin so soft he had to grow a beard because he could not stand the irritation of shaving, was a voice so high pitched it was oddly feminine, was a face so boyish he grew a mustache in his 20s to make him look older--and less vulnerable.

The Irish writer Bernard Shaw declared in his play, "Man and Superman," that all men are cowards. Whatever shortcomings Ernest Hemingway suffered from, he was less of a coward than most men, and probably not a coward at all when it came to love, for whatever normal fears of rejection tore at Hemingway's heart, he always got up the courage to look a woman in her eyes and tell her, "I love you."



**Hemingway understood that a writer must "write from the heart instead of the glands."**

in his Michigan cabin eight months after breaking his heart. Agnes has come to tell Ernest that she loves him and presumably is now ready to marry him. But Ernest, a man of enormous pride, will have none of it. Agnes walks sadly away, the audience cries as profusely as if it had just taken a civil procedure exam, and the captions imply that Hemingway lived a successful but unhappy life because he didn't get to smile across the pillow at Agnes each morning.

In real life, Agnes never met Hemingway at Lake Walloon in the Michigan woods, where he was then writing the first Nick Adams stories, or any other place the rest of their lives. While Hemingway remained nostalgic about Agnes as his



# More Than Just a Face

by catboy

In the great underground literary tradition that *The Reporter* seeks to promote, we inaugurate the *more than just a face* column this month. Who knows, you may be featured next month.

On a random Thursday night, I asked this grrrl if I could interview her, and she looked at me like I was crazy. What follows went down in the *Reporter* office.

catboy: hello, how are you doing?  
andrea: hello, how are you?

what's your name?  
andrea risoli.

andrea, do you go to this school or are you just hanging out?  
uh, yes. i just started, first year, evening divisions.

dave: (cutting in) this is like a deposition.  
catboy: it is like a deposition in a sense. (dave laughs)  
(to andrea) so, why are you in the evening division and not in the day division?  
because i work, and because i am a student who decided to come back to school after a long time of being out of school. so, i thought the evening would be better.

so, how long have you been out of school?  
i've been out of school for fifteen years.

that's a long time.  
dave: (cutting in again) are you working now?  
catboy: (to dave) excuse me, i'm asking the questions.  
andrea: (laughing) give him five minutes and you take five minutes, let's work this out.

catboy: okay, so this has degenerated into a talk show.  
dave: may we ask how old you are?  
andrea: yes, i'm thirty-eight.

when did you graduate from college?  
i went back to college to pursue a law career in 1991 at "iona college" in new rochelle.

did you like that?  
yes, i did.

big school or small school?  
medium.

catboy: (cutting in now) dave, your questions are really cheesy, and you're not getting into the soul of andrea. (andrea laughs)  
dave: okay, what kind of music do you like?  
andrea: well my music taste is very diverse. i go from janis joplin to billie holiday. (catboy starts singing "mercedes benze," and that line of questioning falls apart.)

what was your first concert?  
my first concert was "cat stevens" at madison

square garden.

catboy: wow. do you smoke marlboros? i ask because of that jacket you're wearing.  
andrea: yes, i do.

so, you must smoke a lot to get a jacket like that?  
yeah, i got a lot of miles.  
personally, i collect camel dollars.  
do they have the same potential?

yeah, i got a great pair of camel boxer shorts.  
(laughing) do they have the little guy on them?



Andrea Risoli

yes, with a cigarette in his mouth. so you're all tan, where did you go?  
i was just in the caribbean in angola.

never heard of that.  
it's al little island off st. martin. you have to take a little plane like five minutes off st. martin when you go there. i went with my husband and two other friends.

so you're married, do you have any kids?  
no kids, i'm trying to get my life settled first. but i'm running out of time.

well, what's your favorite course?  
my favorite course. . . well, i don't think i've taken enough of them to have a favorite yet.  
in other words, you don't like any of your courses.  
no, no, i'm finding it very interesting. i like it a lot. i like torts, and i like criminal law too.

criminal law is really cool, do you have blecker?  
yes, i do. i've only had him for two days, and i can already tell that it's going to be good. he's very interesting.

so, why new york law?  
a few reasons. one it's convenient to my life. my mom owns a flower shop down on hudson street. my dad is a lawyer on broadway. i help them both out. i also help out another lawyer down-

town. i run around and i do a lot of different things during the day.

this is what you do during the day?  
yes, then at night i come here, and then i try to be a wife. try to squeeze that in at some point. thank g-d i don't have any kids. because that's a lot. a lot.

what's your favorite color?  
black. i usually have some form of black on.

yeah, i'm checking out those black spandex tights you're wearing. very cool, very eighties. are you into the eighties pop culture, or do you just like the spandex?  
i just like black. right now the spandex is good, because it's warm and not a lot of air gets in.

do you have a lot of friends in school?  
i have acquaintances. i don't think i've made good friends yet, because i don't think i've had the time. but i see relationships starting. and it's kind of weird for me, i haven't really been in school for so long. my head is not into making little cliques, you know what i mean.

it must be different. i'm a day student and i can't imagine what the evening division is like.  
it's nice. the people are older, they're all working, and they're a little more understanding as far as helping each

other. everyone is very helpful, there's no hiding of information or anything like that. and i guess i'm more comfortable being with people my age.

that's silly.  
why, do i look thirty-eight?

no way, i thought you were in your twenties for sure. i'm serious, and i'm trying to kiss up to you or anything, because you're married and it wouldn't even pay.  
(laughing) you're a funny guy.

thank you.  
really, you are. you should do some stand up comedy or something.

nah, i always fall on my face when i do. do you want to go out side and smoke a cigarette?  
no, i'm fine. actually i have to meet a few friends. tonight's the night when i go out for at least one or two drinks.

at least one or two.  
not ten.

so you're not an alcoholic and you're not suffering from that disease we learned about in criminal law.  
(laughing) no, i'm not a powell v. texas.

nice meeting you.  
you too.



# Relationships

By Beth Ettedgui

Relationships between men and women, especially when they are attracted to each other are very strange. Instead of being honest with one another, they play mind games with one another. Interactions between people are hard enough, why make them harder by playing games.

Let's say you go to a random bar and you meet some one, and you hit it off. The guy asks for your phone number, you give it to him, and he never calls. Why do you bother to ask for a phone number if you are not going to call. Don't worry, the girl is not going to feel offended if you do not ask for her phone number. Don't raise her expectations by asking her for her phone number out of guilt and not call her. Another thing, men out

there, if the girl asks for your phone number and you do not want to give it to her, don't! Don't give her a phony number. You look more like a class A jerk when you give a phony number, then not giving your number out at all.

You get the phone number and you call. What is up with calling two or three days later, when you really want to call the person that night. Or your playing phone tag with that person and each of you wait a couple of days to call back. Do what you feel. If you feel like calling that night the girl/guy won't think you are desperate but will be extremely flattered.

Another thing, be honest with the person on how you feel. Do not keep the person guessing. If you don't like the person tell them. If you like the person, tell them or show it. You have nothing to lose. If you beat around the bush, you might have lost out on the love of your life. If you don't like the girl tell her; prolonging it will only aggravate you and hurt the poor person's feelings more.

The one night stand issue. Leave it the way it is. Never expect anything to come out of it. If something does, more power to you. Guys- don't call a girl you know is a one night stand because you feel bad- you will just get troubles at the end. The more effort you put in, the harder it is to get out.

Always trust your vibe. If you do not trust yourself, and rely on other people you are in big trouble. If you have a bad feeling about the person, don't bother, despite anyone else's opinion about the person. Most often than not your feeling of that person turns out to be their true character. Don't be fooled by their act.

The ex situation. That is the hardest thing to deal with. Many trust factors come into play. But are you willing to trust that person that it is really over, especially when they remain good friends. Or if you see them together and they look really chummy you feel like an outsider. You ask the other party what is up and if they say nothing, WAIT! Do not jump to conclusions right away. But trust your vibe. If it tells you something is going on, and if you get that uncanny feeling within yourself that something is going on, TRUST IT!!!

If you meet someone you like, or someone you don't like, BE HONEST WITH THEM. Do Not Play Games. Because if you do life will be much easier to deal with. Games lead to troubles that you really don't want and have time to deal with.

If you sort of go with the flow, let things happen and not rush things, you'll be O.K. Never expect, because if things start to fall below your expectations, then your in problem city. My favorite saying is expect the worst and hope for the best. If you do that then you, and least I am thankful for any little thing that happens in life my way.



## CONFUSION

conflicts

knowing one thing but acting on another

decisions to make

not knowing if they are right or wrong

putting yourself in the other situation not knowing circumstance

wanting one thing thinking it will occur

but in your heart knowing it will never happen

because if it should it would

looking for a clue to keep your belief alive

searching for anything- not to lose what you want

finding it sparsely

you expect the worse and hope for the best

the hope defeating the expectations

you are in too deep but can't get out

knowing your setting yourself up for a big time fall

problem is your wanting is strong

you need someone to pull you out

because your pulling yourself in

you try to pull out but a kind word appears

chaos in your head

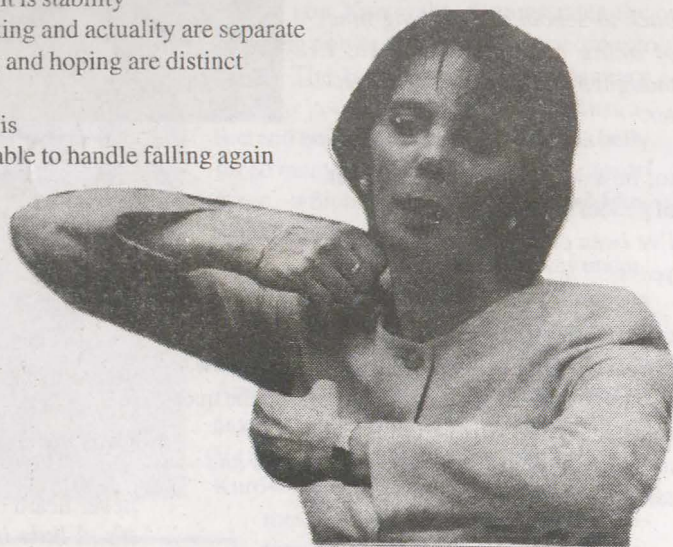
thinking it is stability

but thinking and actuality are separate

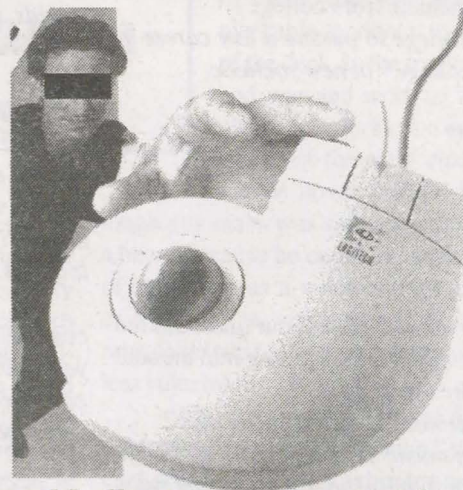
knowing and hoping are distinct

problem is

are you able to handle falling again



## Have You Seen Me?



I am a trackball mouse that was stolen from the Reporter office on Friday, January 24. If you have any information as to the whereabouts of me please call Ext. 4202 or stop by the office.



# BAR REVIEW: JUDGE AND JURY

CONSTITUTION, Continued from Page 7

By Michele Sileo

I promise, no more Bay Ridge, Brooklyn Bar Reviews for a while after this, but with a name like Judge and Jury, how could I resist?

Judge and Jury is located on the corner of 79th Street and 3rd Avenue in the Bay Ridge, section of Brooklyn. It's a bar for the more grown up crowd, not what you would call a happening scene. A lot of suites, a lot of penny loafers, a lot of bob hair do's. Let me say it this way, Meatloaf, The Rolling Stones, The Beatles, Kiss on the jukebox all night long. That's not to say that I'm not a fan of these bands, it's just that, well, I got 'em home.

Here's the other thing that kind of got to me about this bar. There's no back to it. See, Usually a bar is sort of shaped like a dumb bell, There's the front when you first walk in, it's like a vestibule but bigger. Here's where you case the joint, yet still try to feel like you've been there before, Then there's the middle section where the bar is. Then the back, where all the tables are,



sometimes where the pool table or big screen T.V. is. At Judge and Jury, you always feel like you're smack in the middle of the bar because it's shaped like a square. There's no back, no front, just the bar and some tables that are quickly taken by all the other people who don't want to feel like there in the middle.

As far as the whole judicial motif, aside from a mural on the wall depicting a court room scene from old England, an the bathrooms being labeled his and her honor, there isn't much else to it. No chambers, no witness stand, not even a bench.

I don't really have too much to report on as far as the quality of drink you'll get at Judge and Jury. I noticed a selection to 10 taps. My Coors Light was nice and cold. But couldn't fight off the need to flee. I couldn't seem to get comfortable. I wound up standing under the jukebox in a corner next to His Honor's room. Once "The Logical Song" by Supertramp came on, that did it. I dismissed myself out of there and promised I'd never go back.

cerned that the Article 4, Section (b)(2) provision of the new Constitution, requiring executive boards to arbitrarily fill seats or give up funding, will have a negative impact on minority students.

***BALSA feels their organization is the only one that has represented an interest in minority students.***

Baimusa Kamara, Attorney General of BALSA, feels that BALSA is the only organization that has and will continue to represent an interest in minority students. He hopes the old constitution will be re-ratified because the new Constitution "requires all organizations to take a litmus test" before they qualify for funds. Kamara also contends that BALSA should not be subjected to the same test and will survive regardless of the polarity in stances. BALSA exists old Constitution and may not be decertified or disassociated. Should the judicial committee decide to let the new Constitution stand, BALSA is planning to appeal the decision. This time BALSA will argue that their Freedom of Association may not be infringed upon by the new Constitution.

Rachel Marshall, Vice President of BALSA, argues that a new constitution cannot legally diminish BALSA's powers, it would be a de facto procedure. She also points out that BALSA does not preclude anyone from becoming a member however, in order to have voting rights or obtain an official position on their executive board, one must meet the minimal requirements stated in BALSA's Constitution.

BALSA is asking for a review of the new Constitution and is also looking into the details of its ratification. In addition, Kamara urges us to be more concerned with the way such procedures happen in our school. Remember that as law students we should do diligence. After all, we are working within the same structure that exists in this country on a much grander scale.



## Not Fa' Nuthin' But....

By Michael Oelis

Welcome back all you whiners. I hope you're looking forward to a new season of complaints, because I've had it up to here.....

What is a "sort of mandatory meeting"? I had two of these this week. Apparently this means there's a meeting that you don't have to go to but you **should** go to. What? Say that again? Simple question: Do I go or not!! Is there an attendance situation? Am I gonna miss sumthin' important? C'mon... a clue, a small hint as to what this means, please, for sickly, famished and over meetinged, or else I'm goin' home.





# Twelve Gauges of Life



By Matt Brew

"And yesterday I saw you standing by the river.  
And weren't those tears that filled your eyes?  
And all the fish that lay in dirty water dying;  
had they got you hypnotized?"

And yesterday I saw you kissing tiny flowers.  
But all that lives is born to die.  
And so I say to you that nothing really matters.  
And all you do is stand and cry."

*Led Zeppelin*

I spent most of my vacation re-reading my favorite books in an effort to regain some perspective on my life and the world that interrupts it. If you have never read *A Cool Million* by Nathaniel West, I urge you to treat yourself. For that matter, anything from Nathaniel West is worth the time. Or Hemingway. Or Shakespeare's *King Lear*. Or *The Book of Lies* by Aleister Crowley. Any person who is disillusioned enough to believe they are educated should read that book.

If reading isn't your thing, then I suggest some beers and *Apocalypse Now* or *The Bad Lieutenant*. But that's not my point. My point is that Dean Wellington feels that there is a lack of civility around here. Now, Dean is an extremely brilliant man. And though I don't know him from a hole in the wall, I have no complaints (aside from the usual administrative/bureaucratic gripes like a no smoking policy **anywhere** in the building) about the job he is doing as Dean. I think he is really taking significant steps to improving the quality of education offered in this institution. One example would be the faculty. I don't know about you, but I'm pretty impressed with some of their credentials. Professor Belly, Professor Gross, Professor Rothschild, and Professor Cerruti were the best professors I ever had. Sure, there were a couple of incompetents, but there always is.

But that's not my point. My point is that though civility may not be one of this school's strongest points, it certainly would not be fair to characterize the whole school as suffering from a lack of civility. I'm not saying that this is what Dean meant, it's only an observation. Sure this place has its share of assholes, but what place doesn't? Even your family has its share of those. Granted, I understand that law school sucks, but life sucks too. There is a lot of pressure here; most of it self imposed, but nonetheless its effects are the same. It's frustrating when you realize this whole process is total bull\*\*it; yet you have to keep paying for another two years. Christ, if that ain't extortion. But that's not an excuse for being uncivil to people. Yes, I know that it's hard to be civil in a society where your own President can't keep his dick in his pants and your first lady (but certainly not his---nor his last) is facing possible disgrace, but you owe everybody *one* shot.

That's my point; you should be civil, but only to a degree. All that "turn the other cheek" crap is exactly that. Crap. Some people just don't deserve civility. Take for instance the fungus that continues writing approximately 5 minutes after an exam has ended. I'm not talking about some bozo that is trying to finish her sentence. I'm talking about a loathsome Gollum type creature that writes on and on *like she deserves to. Like some-*

*one owes her something.* All the while knowing full well that she is going to be graded against her classmates. I can spare no civility there. I don't give a damn about the exam; I'm looking at the big picture here. Anyone stoned enough to be civil to a person of that demeanor deserves the knife in the back they'll eventually get. There is nothing a person like that could ever do to make me act civil towards her. A person like that should be ridiculed and humiliated so others could see her for what she really is.

I fully subscribe to the philosophy of Anton Lavey. He penned *The Satanic Bible*, which is an extremely humorous and intriguing poke at religion and our society as a whole. Sorry, it's not about human sacrifice and devil worship, so there is no excuse not to read it. Lavey conveys a sophisticated logic that fosters the principle that "if someone slights you on your cheek, smash them in theirs." In other words, you owe the people you encounter the highest level of civility that you'd expect from them; until they hump you over once. That's the magic number. One time. If someone screws you over in anyway, you should go out of your way to repay them five-fold. And make sure your repayment is richer than what they gave you. Consider it interest. After the second time you screw them, they may realize you are not a spineless yak and seek to make some sort of nauseating social truce with you. They won't say it in so many words, but you'll recognize it. By the fifth time they'll know never to mess with you again.

***Though civility may not be one of this school's strongest points, it certainly would not be fair to characterize the whole school as suffering from a lack of civility.***

I guess it all boils down to that **VMI** decision. That military school case where the Supreme Court committed democratic blasphemy yet again. I'm all for gender equality, but if I wanted to see someone pull rabbits out of their ass, I'd go to a magic show on 42<sup>nd</sup> street. Please don't insult me. "Intermediate Scrutiny **Plus**"? Are you kidding me? All this talk about legal ethics and cleaning up the legal profession. If you really want to clean up the legal system, start with the judges. Start throwing some federal judges in jail when they usurp authority they don't have and brandish garbage that they have no legal grounds to mandate. It is a disgrace that in a "democratic and free" society an average person can't open up a book and answer any constitutional question he may have. If someone wants to have a little rally for a while, it should be as clear as day to him exactly what he can and can't do.

I understand that laws can be confusing and complicated in terms of the zillions of state and local ordinances, but this is the Supreme Court. The people whose job is "to say what the laws is". Well, say it. Say it in plain English so that the person of average intelligence, wherever he may be, can understand it. What have they got to hide?

Drop the hallucinogenic trains of thought. What they say should be understandable to everyone. After all, what they say doesn't only affect the lawyers in this world, it effects everybody. That's the problem with 'Con Law.' It is the very thing its name implies. A con.

But I don't want to start on the Court again. But I do hope that you realize that every Supreme Court decision is but a link in the chain that imprisons our freedom. There really is a master plan and every decision is part of that Grand Scheme. People really are watching you, observing what you do and say. When you discover that there really is a Wizard of Oz and that he has it out for you, it's over. When they realize that you've seen whose behind the door, they call you paranoid. How perfect; Paranoia. You show signs of independent thinking and now you are insane.

***If someone screws you over in anyway, you should go out of your way to repay them five-fold.***

What's insane is that they've been doing this for sixty years and haven't been busted. Ever since that Roosevelt sold out the spirit and soul of this country with his New Deal Dictatorship, we have forgotten the principles upon which this country was founded. In the 1930's Roosevelt committed so many acts of treason during his "new government, new authority" initiative that it amazes me so many people sat idly by while they lost what their forefathers had worked so hard to attain for them. And the Supreme Court sat around while it all happened. Are you kidding me?

There was a great depression, or so I've been told. So the time was right for his move. Hats off. People were starving and broke so their freedom came second. Slick move, I'll give him that. But its happening again and you just can't see it. This time, the crisis is crime, not economic chaos. People are so tired and afraid of being scared that they think nothing of allowing the government to trample their rights all in the name of crime fighting. Being held without bail, searches and seizures that would make Hamilton puke, intimidation, black mail, extortion. It's all there. It makes me sick. It makes my stomach wrench. I made these targets out of blown up pictures of JFK. I use them when I go shooting. I know it's inhumane not to worship King Kennedy, but he was another piece of crap. Be honest, he was *not* a good president. Christ, he wasn't even a good man.

But back to my point. I was driving home from a wake I went to upstate. It was about the 8<sup>th</sup> of January, approximately three degrees, and it had just snowed. As my wife and I cruised along the parkway, we saw a car pulled off to the side of the rode with its flashers on. I just want to let you know Dean that I was wearing my civility cap and decided to pull over to the side and see if I could offer the person some assistance, or at least call for a tow truck. Little did I know what I was in store for.

As I approached the vehicle, I observed a young woman, about 25-35 attempting to change

**Continued on Page 9**



## GAUGES, Continued from Page 8

the tire of her auto. I keenly observed that she was not wearing any gloves. She was also not properly dressed for the elements. I asked her if I could be of any assistance and was appalled at what happened next.

What it boiled down to was that *I* was an a\*\*hole for assuming that a woman couldn't change a tire. She further instructed me that I should seek out some other woman who would buy into my "macho bull\*\*it," some squeamish girl who needed to be rescued by a man. "I can change my own tire, thank you".

Now, I normally would have loved to return that serve, but I was, as I said, coming from a wake, which always brings out the romantic in me. I love funeral parlors. Not the morbid death stuff,

but that vibe. That dark foreboding. Doom. I must admit, it turns me on.

Anyway, being that I was in such a good mood, I decided to simply reply that "I'm sorry, you misunderstood me. When I said 'assistance,' I meant did you want me to call you a tow truck or lend you my phone to call someone. The thought of changing your tire never entered my mind. But you know what, you can go fu\*\* yourself now. Enjoy your self righteousness."

I got back in the car and my wife asked me what was going on. I said, "don't worry, she already called for help." As we drove away I thought about telling her about the new friend I made and what had transpired. But my wife is the eternal optimist, so full of ideals and beliefs that I can't possess nor sometimes even comprehend.

She has such incredible faith in people. It saddens me to see my influence on her. Once and a while, when I get really wound up, she politely suggests to me that I get a stronger prescription. She just doesn't understand that all the Lithium and Prozac in the world couldn't destroy my insight.

So back to my point Dean. Civility is a two way street. In a world where "no good deed goes unpunished," it's tough to be civil. But I agree with you to the extent that we should try. At least that first time.

I must apologize if all this makes no sense. But who or what does? I'll tell you. Mike Lafredo makes sense. He's gonna do an article with me next month. Or so he says. Lets see if he's got balls; in a proverbial way of course. Nothing like a little peer pressure, huh Mike?

## COMMENTARY

### Student Dissatisfaction With the School Newspaper: A Personal Perspective

By Anonymous

The fall semester came to pass with each monthly edition of the *Reporter* getting progressively worse. Besides being replete with grammatical errors, the substantive content of this publication has managed to embarrass, alienate, and outrage many at NYLS. It is not the fault of any one person, although many would probably like to point their fingers at the editor. Rather, this newspaper is the product of our student body, and unfortunately, it seems that there is little, if any interest among students to help make this paper a respectable publication. There are, however, solutions that might help lift this newspaper's miserable reputation.

First, without any personal attacks on Mr. Drossman, as an editor he should start making prudent decisions as to what submissions should be published in each issue. In his 'Editor's Note' (*The Reporter*, December 1996, Page 2), Mr. Drossman wrote that "all reasonable submissions will be printed." Reasonableness is an objective standard. As evidenced by the abundant student complaints about this newspaper, objectively, the articles published are not characterized by most readers at this school as "reasonable." For instance, the November 1996 issue included one student article ranting and raving about the Supreme Court. This article contained a number of phrases that were quite inappropriate for publication in a law school newspaper. Other examples include the December 1996 issue's stream of consciousness piece on our Dean, (accompanied by a ludicrous mock photo of Dean Wellington), which neither served to enlighten or inform students about the views of Dean Wellington.

The 'Catboy' articles would be more at home in the pages of the *Village Voice* or *NY Press* than in a law school newspaper. (Can Catboy learn how to spell girl, woman and learn to use correct punctuation?) Does 'humming' have anything to do with our law school? In addition, as its name suggests, the *Reporter* should report; and when perspectives or opinions are published, they should be clearly labeled as such and not passed off as news articles.

Yes, we have freedom of expression and all that jazz, but a newspaper which represents a legal institution which is struggling to gain better credibility must balance this freedom with the need for a reputable publication that can be shown to alumni and others in the legal community without wincing.

Second, although the *Reporter* sponsors the dissemination of ideas,

it does not need to do so in a way that most students find offensive and downright ridiculous. Since its September 1996 publication, the *Reporter* has insulted and angered a large portion of the student body through its 'Ombudsman' column and through various articles. This newspaper has offended the various eighth floor organizations, The Irish Law Students Association, and the Dean to name just a few. Not only does the *Reporter* lose a portion of its readership each time a student reads an offensive commentary about body parts or a stereotype (see past 'Ombudsman' columns or '1-800 Lawyers'), but it inhibits potential writers from contributing articles for fear of being associated with such bunk. Thus, in order to avoid repelling any more readers or potential writers, the *Reporter* should use some tact when selecting articles for publications rather than print whatever comes in.

Another plausible solution that may help bring this newspaper out of the recesses of mediocrity is to make it a shorter publication.

Rather than fill twenty or so pages with mindless writings that have no place in a law school newspaper, simply make the paper shorter. If there are not enough quality articles, cut the issue down to ten, fifteen pages, whatever, but fill the pages with quality writing. Quality not quantity is the key to refining this newspaper.

Finally, Mr. Drossman alone cannot be responsible for reforming the *Reporter*. Like many of us, he is a student who is also faced with the day to day pressures that all law students face. He is not getting compensated in any way for the time and energy he spends putting together this newspaper. He is working with what he has, and what he has is not much.

The best solution for improving the *Reporter* is for all students to get involved. It is very easy to sit back and criticize each issue, but criticism alone will not change a thing. Instead, take action and contribute. If more students write articles, help edit, or work on an issue's layout, hopefully this will lead to an improvement.

There are many ideas for article floating around school. If you are a member of a student organization, take the initiative by becoming the organization's publicist; write about your organization's accomplishments and upcoming activities. If you are acquainted with an alum, ask him or her to write about their field of practice. It might make an interesting article. Talk to your professors and find out about the interesting things they have done or are doing and write a profile piece. Go to an event hosted by a legal association and write about it. If there is an issue of concern to students, talk with them about it, get their ideas and quotes, then report it to the entire student body.

All it takes is a little initiative and some effort. With everyone's help, the *Reporter* could make a complete turnaround and become a quality student journal that we could be proud of.



**Although the *Reporter* sponsors the dissemination of ideas, it does not need to do so in a way that most students find offensive and downright ridiculous.**



# VALENTINE GREETINGS

To: A.T.  
From: President, Hair Club for Men  
This year it is my turn. Looking ahead to the future, here is your free membership

To: Alba, Monika & Namita  
From: Kris  
Thank you for the laughter, the support, and the hangovers. Happy Valentine's Day! I love you!

To: Alba  
From: Admirer from afar  
You are not only beautiful, but you are also a beautiful person as well

To: Alison  
From: Your Knight in Shining Armor  
Who's Ann Marie going to hag out with once I take you away to my castle in ... er ... New Jersey?

To: Alison - a very lovely first year  
From: A third year who wants your attention  
You are a Goddess whose powers control me. Let me serve you!

To: All the Fly BLSA Girls  
From: Wayne  
Stay Fly - Much Love

To: All Men  
From: A Sincere woman  
Thank you - for what? Who the hell knows ...



To: Andrea  
From: ?  
I enjoyed the sex shop, especially the peep show! But next time, don't get one so big.

To: Andy Troia ("The Shroom")  
From: Kim A.  
Thanks for always being able to put a smile on my face.

To: Anthony D.  
From: The Ferry  
You already know - I sweat you so hard.

To: Auntie Em  
From: Petrified Persian  
- I'm afraid I need your advice,  
- I'm a thespian payin' the price,  
- After my role as the Lion,  
- Rumors started a-flyin',  
- Canines now conspire,  
- To put my fitness under fire,  
- 'Cause as a cat with a paw,  
- On the mouse of the law,  
- I answer to "Pussy, Esquire"

To: Auntie Em  
From: Wizard of Oz  
Meet me in the storm cellar during the next twister! P.S. Bring the hemp.

To: BB  
From: Your baby  
Everyday is Valentine's Day with you. You're the BEST!

To: Beanie  
From: LuLu  
What can I say? I am at a loss for worlds over your leaving. LYLAS (love you like a sister). And thank you



To: Beautiful  
From: LuLu  
Yeah, you!! Here's to putting the practice into the theory/practice dilemma over the past years. My shoulder is your shoulder, always! Thankx. Love ya'

To: Beth Dooley  
From: Secret Admirer  
Wow! You don't know what you do to me when I see you smile.

To: Big, Giant A.V. Boy  
From: Frightened Feline  
Are you in proportion?

To: Bjorn  
From: A lost 3rd year  
Where are you?

To: BLSA Men  
From: Maria DaBreo  
Happy Valentine's Day

To: Blues eyes  
From: Your Brown Eye Girl  
I miss you the Most!

To: Bob & Dorothy  
From: Leslie & Jayne  
Thanks for putting up with us without chucking a stapler or something! Ya'll are great!!

To: Boo  
From: The Girl  
"Hail, Hail the Lucky ones, I refer to those in love"

To: Brandon D.  
From: Mommy  
I thank God for you always. You silly rabbit

To: Brandon  
From: Paul  
Don't worry. Size doesn't matter.

To: Brut  
From: Medusa  
You make me happy!

To: Bryan K.  
From: Who else??  
To the things that couldn't be! At least we made a lasting friendship! Happy Valentine's!

To: Calandra & Traci  
From: Fia, Jayne & Leslie  
The Highnesses of Fly-ness. Thanks for everything!

To: CF, MA, JE, & CM  
From: Kim A.  
You guys have made the past 2½ years great. To many more good times! P.S. If any of you leave NY, I'll kill you!

To: Chris McGee  
From: Red  
You have the best eyes, hair, cheekbones, and complexion. Yummy!

To: Cook  
From: Colorado Blue Sky  
Your love makes it easy. Thank you for everything you do! I love you!

To: Corinne  
From: Andy  
In this life, you are a great friend - In another life, you'll be my soulmate

To: Cristin, Marna & Kim  
From: Jen  
It's raining men! Four single women in NYC having fun - Does life really get any better?

To: Cristin  
From: Jen  
Sking was great - you have me hooked!! Thanks for being such a great friend.

To: Damian Pietanza  
From: Jayne  
I was ignorant to believe that I could pose a challenge to you. My inferior abilities, skills and intelligence are no match for your greatness. You are and always will be my mentor and idol. I am not worthy of your respect but will do whatever it takes to gain it. I beg for your pity because without it I have nothing. Your less-than-adequate opponent.

To: Damian P.  
From: Jayne  
I'm not upset. I'm not upset at all.

To: Danielle P.  
From: Goggleman  
Smile

To: Dave McNulty  
From: Jen  
Three terrific years ... I wouldn't have been able to get through them without you. You are a special friend. Love, Jen

To: David Werbel  
From: ?  
Will you be my Don "Lino" Juan?

To: Dorothy  
From: Lisa & Andy  
Bob owes you some banana bread

To: Drinker Biddle  
From: Your buddy, Crummy Del Deo  
Happy Valentine's Day, you lush!

To: Dumb & Dumber  
From: S.T.  
Thanks for causing me never-ending aggravation. I ya both

To: Farmer Boy in Section A  
From: Reckless with Intent in Section B  
Can anybody play?

To: Farnoush  
From: Fans in Family Law  
We can't take our eyes off you - your beauty is breathtaking

To: Fia  
From: Leslie & Jayne  
You're the best cowardly lion I ever met! See you in the afterworld. Love!

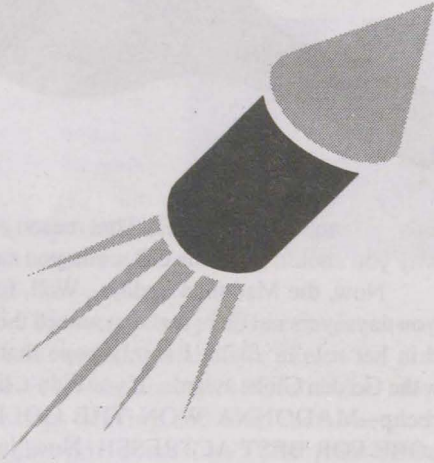
To: Frederick (mailroom)  
From: Your Boo!  
Fantasies can come true.

To: Gary D.  
From: Karen R.  
You are a gift from God. Thanks for saying yes ...

To: Gerald S.  
From: Jayne & Leslie  
We love you! Don't change! (You'll always be my wizard!)



# VALENTINE GREETINGS



To: Grace & Elena  
From: Karen  
Happy Valentine's Day. Sending you love & happiness

To: Greg B.  
From: KA  
I'm so glad you decided to start talking to me second year!  
You really were the best Moot Court partner - I didn't mean it when I told you I wanted to kill you.

To: Heather, Kit, Sam, Stan, Steve, Glenn, Paula, Juan & Luis  
From: G.  
Only 2 more years to go!!! Happy Valentine's Day!

To: Heather  
From: Wayne  
Stay cool and stay sweet. One love

To: Heather Holbrook  
From: Leslie  
Where the (bleep) are you?

To: J.M.  
From: Someday  
If you're up to it, lets sleep together someday!

To: J.P.S.  
From: Mens Rea  
I have wanted you since the "Dapper Dog"

To: Jason Armenti  
From: Red  
You are so handsome. Love, your secret admirer from afar

To: Jason Armenti  
From: S.A.  
I have liked you since day one. I just wish I could say it to your face.

To: Jay  
From: Karen  
Yes, I'll marry you. Love you forever!

To: Jayne  
From: Damian  
Thanks for telling everybody I won. You're the best, I mean it, really, you're just #1! Anytime I can return the favor, just let me know!

To: Jayne  
From: T.V.  
You are the only one!

To: Jazzy Joyce  
From: Wayne  
"Bring it on punk" - Keep spinning on the 1s & 2s - One love

To: Jeff  
From: BQOC  
I'd like a little Italian in me! Anytime!

To: Jo Sacco  
From: JHR  
We appreciate you!!! XOXO

To: JPW  
From: The Boys  
What we wouldn't give to get you in bed

To: Juan Agueda  
From: G.  
I miss my law school husband! Happy Valentine's Day!

To: Kathleen D.  
From: NYLS Nice Guy  
You're young, intelligent, pretty, funny, and nice. What more could you want? Me!

To: Kevie  
From: JFD  
Relax!!!

To: Kimba  
From: Jen  
Couldn't imagine law school without you. Who would have thought a few M & M's could be the basis of such a great friendship (we should do a commercial) That'll be after I take care of the patent issue!

To: L.S.  
From: P.F.  
Wha-Wha?, What'd he say? Lemme see you notes. Damn girl, he's fiiiiine ....

To: L7 Ho's (E.B., J.M., P.T., & L.S.)  
From: ASA  
Happy Valentine's Day. You all deserve the best day & night!

To: L7 Ho's  
From: The Ho of all Ho's  
This being our last year, thank God we're all "getting some". Let's just hope its enough to last through finals!

To: L7 - My Sweeties  
From: PT  
This Valentine's will certainly be fun-filled! Don't do anything I wouldn't ...

To: L7 (Everyone in L7)  
From: Liz  
I hope you all have a very Happy Valentine's Day!

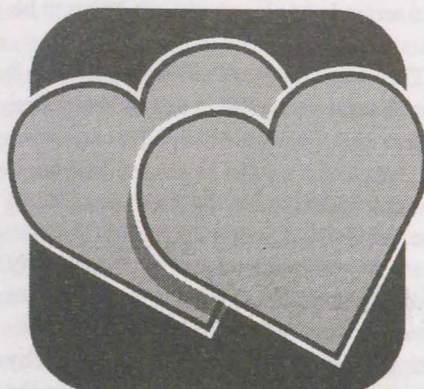
To: L7 Girls  
From: The Other Gyriz  
Werkit laydies, Werkit that funky liberalism!

To: LaLSA members  
From: Geraldine  
Let's look forward to a fun & successful semester. Happy Valentine's Day!

To: LaLSA E. Board (Carmen, David, Juan & Stella)  
From: Geraldine  
Thanks you for your energy & support. Lets make this semester a successful one. Happy Valentine's Day!

To: Leslie  
From: Anthony  
You're the one I really want!

To: Leslie S.  
From: Ted M.  
No angel can replace that smile on your loving face ...



To: Leslie  
From: Jayne  
You're the best roomie ever! Love ya! See you in the afterworld!!

To: Lilly  
From: Secret Admirer  
You're the reason I go to the library. I really don't study!

To: Lisa  
From: Your roomie  
You have been a true friend, a royal pain, and a great roomie. I love you and will miss you!

To: Marna  
From: Jen  
Your lessons were great!

To: Matt K.  
From: ?  
You are my exotica!

To: Meredith & Lance  
From: The Spinster  
Can I come with you guys on Valentine's day? God knows I won't have a date!

To: Meriem  
From: C  
You one fine, fiery womyn

To: Meriem Faidd  
From: A friend (and quasi secret admirer)  
You're lovely in the most universal way possible

To: Michael  
From: Jodi  
You're fat, balding, and you tell it like it is. Thanks! You're a great friend!

To: Michelle, Melanie, Erin & Karen  
From: Lisa  
Happy Valentine's Day. I'm going to miss you all next year.

To: Mom, Grandma, Honey, and Beba  
From: Vladimir Vizner  
To the most special women in my life, thank you for your support and encouragement. I couldn't have made it this far without you. Just remember that the love you have shown me will always be returned by the power of ten.

To: Moses  
From: You know who  
Be my Valentine!

To: Mr. Frosty  
From: NT  
Oh Mr. Frosty - I miss you so ... I promise from now on I'll keep you in a warm place.

To: My Mentor  
From: T.V.  
I've finally learned the alphabet; it's time for my next lesson!

To: N.  
From: Your friends in L7  
You are a goddess!

To: Nathan Semmel  
From: ?  
Remember I said I was over it .... I lied!

To: ND  
From: JFD  
Where have you been the past 2 years? Late night talks are good, but I wanna drink with you.

To: Nicole  
From: Sad that you're engaged  
Your beauty is more intoxicating then the champagne named after you

Continued on Page 18



# MUSIC MONTHLY

By Alexis Troy

Welcome back from a much needed vacation! I hope everyone's holiday was enjoyable. I know mine was because I received two excellent CD's for Christmas which I am going to review for you this month. They are two compilation CD's--ESPN's *Jock Jams* and a little nostalgic CD called *Pure Disco*. First I will review *Jock Jams*, then *Pure Disco*, and then, the part of my column that I know everyone looks forward to, the Madonna update. I have a lot of Madonna news this month, so let's get started!

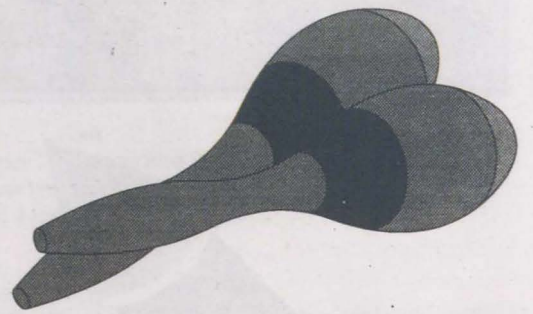
ESPN's *Jock Jams* is absolutely fantastic! These songs are the perfect contrast for the mundane reading we do every day. Every great dance song is on here, from K.C. and the Sunshine Band to Coolio. If you like to dance, please go buy this CD! And don't be fooled--this CD is not just for Jocks! Anyone can listen! But seriously, I would recommend this CD for anyone who likes dance music. Some of the

better songs on the CD are "This is Your Night," "Get Down Tonight," and "Give it Up." Of course, the worst song on the CD is without a doubt "Macarena," which gets my vote for worst song of the year. But don't let this deter you from picking up what is otherwise a great CD.

*Pure Disco* is equally fantastic, but only if you like 70's disco, which fortunately I do. This

## Madonna Update

CD contains the best songs from the bell bottom era. Everyone is here, from Donna Summer to Barry White to Abba. The company that put this compilation together did an excellent job of choosing the music. I have very few complaints ("YMCA" is just so played out already), and many words of praise. I particularly like the fact that the CD contains songs from "Saturday Night Fever" and my favorite movie, "Grease." The Grease megamix, which has been played on the radio con-



stantly, is featured on this CD. That reason alone is why you should grab this CD while you can!

Now, the Madonna update. Well, for all of you naysayers out there that denounced the legend in her role in *Evita*, I surely hope that you saw the Golden Globe awards. If you didn't, here's a recap--MADONNA WON THE GOLDEN GLOBE FOR BEST ACTRESS!! Now, just in case you didn't know it, the Golden Globe awards are often what determines the Oscar nominations. How excited am I? By the way, Madonna looked absolutely beautiful at the awards. Motherhood definitely suits her. In other Madonna news, her appearance on Rosie O'Donnell's talk show was one of the best shows I have ever seen. Both of them was really funny, and it was nice to hear her being asked halfway intelligent questions. Finally, I did manage to see "Evita" over the break and surprise, surprise, I loved it! It definitely isn't for everyone because it really is an opera, not a movie. But if you like Broadway plays, you will love the movie.

So there you have my latest music review. For *Jock Jams*, on a scale of 1-10, I give it a great 9 1/2. *Pure Disco* gets a not too shabby 8 1/2. My recommendation for both--run out to your nearest Record Explosion and get your copies today! Next month, I will be reviewing two soundtracks.



## A Professor From Hell

By Anonymous

You study for your finals, you take them, and you expect all your hard work to pay off. But what happens if you get a professor from hell? He grades you on a C curve. There are more D's than B's and more F's than A's. Let's make it better, this professor taught a first year class and we are stuck with him for the spring semester as well. Sort of sucks, huh?

Well that is the nightmare I had this semester. I am a 1L at this beloved institution. This past semester we had a Contracts professor from hell. Of course, he taught us contracts, not! He was extremely anal. If you walked in a second late, to a 9 a.m. class, he'd stop talking and stare you down until you would take out your note book. He would do that continuously throughout the hour.

Also, he did not teach us contracts. He taught us all we needed to know about the UCC. This is not a UCC class, it is an introductory Contracts class. Now we are in Property and we need to know essential Contracts terms, and we do not know them. Why not you ask? Because when we asked him to define terms, he replied, "What's that, I don't know what that means", and kept on blabbing away. He called us the worst class he had in years. What did he expect when he did not teach us what we needed to know to pass this thing called the BAR that we have to take eventually.

**Not only does he think that we are an incompetent bunch of fools, he decided to go against the required school policy of the B/B- curve**

Not only does he think that we are an incompetent bunch of fools, he decided to go against the required school policy of the B/B- curve. He graded us on a C/C- curve. Even if we were stupid idiots, we compete against each other, not according to his standards. He told us that he took into consideration the school policy of the curve, and the fact we all did poorly on his final. He decided that he could not give someone a grade they did not deserve. So therefore, he decided to break the tradition of the curve, and gave us grades as to what he felt we deserved, not what the school thinks we deserve. He screwed us over and our class ranks are going to be hurt because he did not follow the curve.

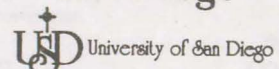
He told us that we are his worst class in years. The scores on the final ranged from an 8 - 64. Funny, we all made it to law school, so we must have some sort of brain on our shoulders. Of course, he did not blame himself for being an incompetent professor. He blamed his failure to teach on the students. There must be a reason that not one person passed his exam. Maybe, it was because of his failure to convey Contracts to us accurately. But of course, he will not admit that. It is much easier to assign blame on some one else, anyone but yourself.

Law school is hard, especially for us lowly 1Ls who aren't with the program yet. Why should we suffer because a professor fails to see his deficiencies? We all have faults, we are human, we are not perfect. Why should we suffer because a person feels that he is more "human" than any of us. Law is all about justice, about treating every person equally and fairly. Why should we be punished because another human feels that he is better than another and above the law than another?



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# humming

by catboy

i admit it. as a hetero-boy, i've always been a sucker for the punk-rock grrrl. but that's only half the story. what really turns me on is power. i am completely infatuated with the grrrl who takes up space and doesn't know her place. she never crosses her legs, never shuts her mouth, never stops thinking, and never "acts like a lady." when this grrrl passes by, i hear jennifer finch screaming: "how many times must you be told, there's not where that we don't go!!!" and i smile.

inevitably, i always find myself waxing sentimental over winter-break. i attribute this sentiment to vacation's high stress level. i can't stop thinking about people who absented themselves for my life and people who i personally removed from my surroundings. it's cheesy, i know, but i'm listening to *tom waits*, *leonard cohen*, *trudy lynn*, and the new *luscious jackson*. in fact, tom's "innocent when you dream" is particularly soothing.

at the bus-stop  
in a green sports car  
dark glasses  
her head thrown back  
a nod  
a smile  
& a laugh

back when i had money in the bank  
when i snuck around a lot  
when i drove real slow down route 17  
i played practical jokes  
on my friend "falcon"  
who worked in a gas-station,  
and he set me up just as good.

new york. move fast, as fast as you can. pretend you know what you're doing. look down. look straight ahead. don't look at anyone. whatever you do, don't look up or you're liable to get mugged [sic]. walking fast to work one morning, i stop at a "dont walk" sign. a group of people stop and stand with me. suddenly, severe confusion sets in. i don't know what to do with my hands, i can't stand still, i can't think, why are all these people standing next to me? the sign changes to that beautiful off white "walk," and i breathe easier as i begin rushing down the avenue again. i'm not even late, i just feel stupid and vulnerable if i'm not in flux.

sunday evening i'm rambling by *starbucks* off of astor place, and this boy steps up to me.

"excuse me," he says, "but you really look like you know your way around here. could you tell me where the *green door* on st. marks is?"

i direct him to the *green door*, which isn't that difficult, since it's pretty much across the street. obviously i'm feeling especially cool, because i "really look like i know my way around." well, i guess this means i'm finally hip in the coolest city in the world. of course, i will not tell you how a couple of weeks

later i drag my friend sharp all the way down allen street in the freezing cold, thinking the whole time that we are walking east on houston street.

one night i step outside the *cineplex* on 50th before *the funeral*. a 3-boy posse is standing next to me. one of the boys bums a smoke. the biggest boy of the three says to the boy who bums the cigarette: "yo, c, you asked that 'mo for a smoke!'" i turn to the other boys and ask them if they want a cigarette as well, but they decline. and when i offer to light the boy's cigarette, he peels away. as i stand there smoking, it suddenly dawns on me what a "mo" is. so i turn to the biggest boy and i say: "by the way, i'm not a 'mo.'"

"you're not a 'mo?'"

"no i'm not a 'mo. and while we are on the subject, so what if i am?"

"well, you're lucky you're not a 'mo, otherwise i'd give you a hard right in the jaw."

"why would you do that? (trying to enlighten the boy) don't you realize that these people are human like yourself, and they're not throwing any punches in your face?"

"oh yeah, they have a big problem. they bend over, and no one makes them do it."

at this point i realize how dangerous, ignorant, and homophobic this boy is. i decide that it is useless to try to convince him that being queer is perfectly normal and healthy, and i walk away thinking something about the state of the nation.

but before i go back into the theater, i can't resist asking him one more question:

"if you don't mind me asking, what made you think that i was gay?"

"well, you were just all happy, smiling, and shit."

"oh, so if i was angry and depressed looking, this would indicate that i was straight."

"yeah, you just gotta be careful."

new year's eve is fairly normal. first, i drag serena and mr. haskeli all the way to greenpoint to hang out with *hot walrus*. i get a new *hot walrus* demo, and when the performance begins i introduce the band and knock over a few mic stands. *hot walrus* never played better than they play tonight. dj steve spins during the set, adding yet another musical angle to one of the most creative and greatest group of boys i know.

after *walrus*, we catch *the lunachicks* at *don hill's*. i see squid before the show, wish her a happy new year, and she returns my greeting. mistress formika introduces the band, and they really, really, really rock.

i'm still floating from talking to squid by the time we end up at lisa's apartment in battery park city at 3am. i do not think that we are that late, but apparently we are, because everyone has already donned sweatpants. i have a heineken in a can. welcome to 1997.

*axe2grind* (hopi's band) performs for the first time at *meow mix* one tuesday night. the line up includes becky (formerly of *the lunachicks*) on drums and sometimes lead vocals, rene on lead guitar and vocals, hopi on rhythm guitar and vocals, and a boy (whose name i forget) on bass and back up vocals. one definitely hears a whole range of good grrrl band influences within *axe2grind's* opus. however, the band has taken all these influences in a completely fresh direction. the set is all original, excepting a rocking cover of sweet's "grrrlfriend," which becky dedicates to her grrrlfriend sarah. *meow mix* is packed. not only did several nyls students turn out for the auspicious event, but *sexpod*, michelley queen of queens (of the great *mother jugs and speed*), *miss guy* and *the toilet boys*, and other boys and grrrls whom i recognize but cannot exactly place are all in the house.

on saturday night, mr. haskeli, david, beth,

and myself, are hanging out at the local dive *koyote kate's* on 47th. the house band doesn't exactly cut it. dave gets hustled at the pool table. this boy who claims to be a "mason" is not giving away all the secrets. boys and grrrls are hitting on each other really hard. this waitress with eighties-poof-hair and a tray of vials is threatening to spank me. this "hippie from california i sell incense believe in love and g-d feel the vibe" boy is trying to sell beth and dave some religion. the grrrl with him, on the other hand, is actually kind of cool. she shows off her body hair, and gives me her business card.

another tuesday night, and i have the privilege of seeing *hot walrus* play two sets at *creations* (this new bar that recently opened across the street from *tramps*). this band just gets better every time i see them. *creations* is a nice venue, but only because it's really big and has couches. however, the drinks cost a small fortune, and the staff exude this really strange vibe. anyhow, let me stress again how great *hot walrus* is. no one has ever seen or heard

a band like this one. their artistic perspective is so fresh and greasily original. i never have a bad experience with their songs or their personalities. *hot walrus* is one of those rare bands that always keeps you guessing, and delivers on

every single # they play. i could attempt to write a whole column explaining *hot walrus*, i'll tell you that they're a cross between *primus* and *ween*, but they're not. my advice to everyone i've ever met: check out *hot walrus* when they play the *knitting factory* on march 19th, it will be really good for you.

walking down broadway one sunday i pass by a store called *yellow rat bastard*. i only step inside the store because i think the name is neat. the staff are cool too, and the interior of the store is set up like a mock version of new york city. clothes are hung in the red-light district, chinatown, etc. this is a fun store, but the clothing selection is terrible. other than a couple of t-shirts by *porn* and *ms. stoopid*, this store has nothing of value. go figure.

after much debate and a strange spotting of mr. haskeli in a criminal law class in nyls, january comes to a close with a climactic *mother jugs and speed* record release party at *meow mix*. *miss guy* and *the toilet boys* open up for *mother jugs* with a cover of "talk dirty to me." the band really rocks. this is the first time that i am seeing *miss guy* and co. since almost a year ago, and they are so much better now. their music, to quote sharp, "is so tight," and they create a wall of sound which rocks your world.

things move along really quickly at the party, everyone is extremely festive, and before long *mother jugs and speed* take the stage. i cannot describe *mother jugs and speed's* performance tonight, because words will be quite inadequate. i admit it, i am a *mother jugs and speed* groupie. michelley brings me on stage to model the *mother jugs* t-shirt, and revolution is in the air.





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## PERSPECTIVES: A LOOK BACK

By Billie Rand



For all those born prior to 1945: WE ARE SURVIVORS!

\* We came before television, before penicillin, before polio shots, frozen foods, Xerox, contact lenses, Frisbees and the PILL.

\* We came before radar, credit cards, split atoms, laser beams and ball-point pens; before pantyhose, dishwashers, clothes dryers, electric blankets, air conditioners, drip-dry clothing - AND - before man walked on the moon!

\* We got married first and THEN lived together. How quaint can you be?

\* In our times, closets were for clothes, not for "coming out of." Bunnies were small rabbits - and Rabbits were not Volkswagens. Designer jeans were scheming girls named Jean or Jeanne; and having a meaningful relationship meant getting along well with our cousins.

\* We thought fast food was what you ate during Lent; and outer space was the back of the local theater.

\* We came before house-husbands, gay rights, computer dating, dual careers and computer marriages. We came before day-care centers, group therapy and nursing homes. We never heard of FM radio, tape decks, electric typewriters, artificial hearts, word processors, yogurt, and men wearing earrings. For us, time-sharing meant togetherness - not commuters or condominiums; a "chip" meant a piece of wood; hardware meant hardware; and software wasn't even a word!

\* In 1940, "Made in Japan" meant junk and the term "making out" referred to how you did on an exam. Pizzas, McDonalds and instant coffee were unheard of.

\* We hit the scene when there were 5 and 10 cent stores where you . . . bought things for five and ten cents. The corner drug store sold ice cream cones for a nickel or a dime. For one nickel you could ride a street car, make a phone call, buy a Pepsi or mail one letter and two postcards. You could buy a new Chevy Coups for \$600, but who could afford one? A pity, too, because gas was only 11 cents a gallon!

\* In our day, cigarette smoking was fashionable. GRASS was mowed, COKE was a cold drink, and POT was something you cooked in. ROCK MUSIC was a grandma's lullaby, and AIDS were helpers in the principal's office.

\* We certainly were not before the differences between the sexes was discovered, but we surely were before the SEX CHANGE - we made do with what we had. And we were the last generation that was so dumb as to think you needed a husband to have a baby! No wonder we are so confused and there is such a generation gap. But we survived; What better reason to celebrate?



## Tales From The Lower East Side

By Jean Eisenmeyer



The "Yiddish" Language

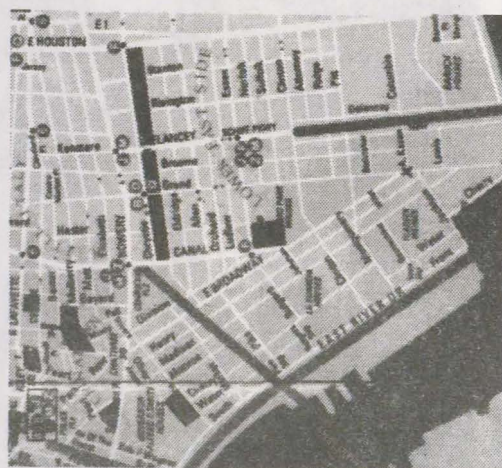
The "Yiddish" language has been part of the Jewish culture for centuries. It has run the gamut of intellectual brilliance of Maurice Schwartz in his dramatic performances to mirth-provoking vulgarity.

Yiddish audiences left the theater sobbing or in tears after attending performances by the great Yiddish tragedienne Jenny Goldstein, who expounded deep and sorrowful Yiddish phrases.

The fervent desire on Eastern Europeans to convert to Americanism caused a great decrease in the use of Yiddish. However, about 1950 there was a rejuvenation of Yiddish and the growing interest resulted in courses about this language at Columbia University and other New York colleges.

Many Eastern Europeans have for many centuries retained their adherence to idiomatic expressions such as: Kin tza gane amool (do visit with me sometime); Hock meer nich a chinit (do not knock me a tea kettle- don't bother me); Ah grubber yinh (a fat or uncouth man); Ah nechtingan toog (a yesterday day- it will never happen); Fradray meer nich kine kup (don't turn my head-leave me alone).

In the future we may see a marked increase in the circulation of the Yiddish and English newspaper 'The Forward.'





# NYLS Loses one of its Best

**Rothschild, Continued from Page 1**

ously that he was leaving teaching to "younger, more vigorous minds."

Lawyers need to reconnect with the community, he said. "Lawyers have lost credibility with the public because they are no longer seen as part of the community."

Echoing a concern often stated by Professor Quintin Johnstone, Rothschild suggested that not only poor but also middle class Americans need affordable legal representation and the knowhow to obtain legal help.

Facing squarely the quality of life question that concerns so many law students, Rothschild encouraged students to seek "alternative" legal positions or options where they can make a living at law but still enjoy a "quality lifestyle." He suggested part-time legal work, pro bono work, "or just put up your shingle in the burbs or country."

Calling today's job market "a catch 22," he said that employers want someone who knows their business, but how do you get it without experience? His answer again was volunteer work, pro bono work and part-time work. Rothschild urged patience in the job hunt.

Rothschild played down exams, stating, "In the real world you're not going to put together everything you know about a case in three hours. If you did you'd get sued for malpractice."

He played up the idea that law is a trade. "You're learning a trade. Law is a trade. You're learning to solve problems. That's what lawyers do, solve problems. You're learning a method."

Rothschild urged his final Commercial Transactions class to adapt to the new legal world of downsizing firms and specialized firms. "We no longer live in the world of 2,000 billable hours to keep on partnership tracts because you might become a partner just in time for the firm to go bankrupt," he declared.

## "I cried after his speech"

"Few of you will be just in one firm," he predicted.

Turning briefly to the larger picture of the United States as it approaches the 21st century, Rothschild stated, "This country is in a crisis." He did not elaborate.

Rothschild's parting words left a powerful impact on his Commercial Transactions class. "I cried after his speech," Jessica Klafter confessed. "Everything he said was so heartfelt. It was so evident on his face how much he cares." Flora Raines said, "He was so inspiring." Elizabeth Davis said, "I was fighting back tears." Ted Mavromihalis said, "I was speechless."

"The passion and care he put into teaching was evidenced in the way he addressed the class

throughout the semester," Mamvromihalis said. "I hope he's sailing off into the sunset as he always talked about."

Mamvromihalis' praise for Rothschild's teaching was echoed throughout the Com Trans class. Floyd Engelhardt said, "I thought he was great. He was a wonderful human being. He had a good

sense of humor and he also conveyed the material, which is rare." Jesse Stein said, "I thought he was an outstanding professor. He made a tough course manageable."

SBA President Jon Brien said it was "refreshing to have a real practicing attorney for a professor rather than an academic. You got a true feel rather than theory and concept. Of course, I'm partial because I'm from Rhode Island and so is he."

"You could tell he really loved teaching," said Jason Butler, a member of law review. "You could tell his love for the material. You could tell he really cared about the students and it came across every day in class. He talked with authority. There was a kindness under his strength. I felt really privileged to have been in that class."

## "I look at him...I hope we can achieve that. You couldn't ask for more."

Raymond Lee said, "I look at him...I hope we can achieve that. You couldn't ask for more."

"He really cared that we learned," said Nicole Krug. "He was always prepared, always open to questions and constructive criticism. I think he was great...an absolute loss to the school."

Jessica Klafter added, "The relationships he has with his students is phenomenal. He's so concerned with the life choices we'll make. He teaches you what you'll need to know to become a good attorney and become a good person. He's taught us an incredible amount."

Rick Chung said Mr. Rothschild was "the most organized professor that I ever had." Chung added, "We got the most out of the class in absorbing the material."

## I felt really privileged to have been in that class.

"He was really systematic," declared Seoung-Hee Park.

Philip Caal said, "He knew that he had a practical course you can use. He made sure you understood the material."

"Mr. Rothschild's class was worth the 20 grand in tuition on its own," declared Matt Brew.

Gila Garber called Rothschild "a wonderful professor."

Jay McGerry, who took Com Trans last year from Rothschild, said, "He really cared about his students."

Anthony DiSalvo simply called Rothschild "the best ever."

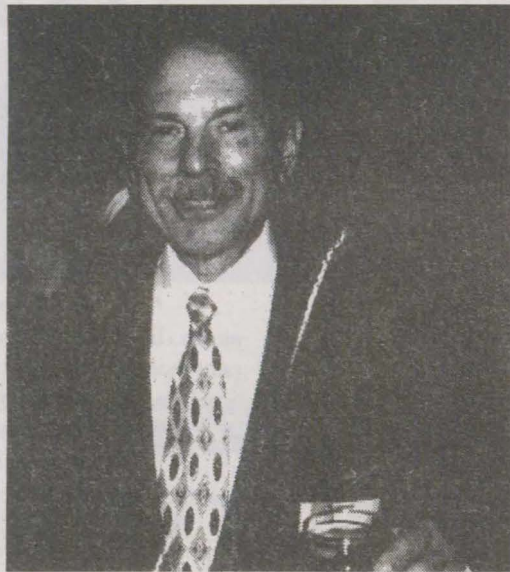
"A class act," said Cliff Scott, who will work for Proskauer Rose & Paskus after he graduates in May.

"I still think of the things he told me," concluded Jessica Klafter.

On Thursday, December 5, Mr. Rothschild came to the end of his Commercial Transactions lecture. Former NYLS professors Woodrow Wilson, 27th President of the United States, and Charles Evans Hughes, 14th Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, had preceded Rothschild in concluding their legal teaching careers in our classrooms. Many of the students, fighting tears, were planning to give Rothschild a standing ovation when he finished.

They never got the chance. As he finished his lecture, Mr. Rothschild quickly gathered his papers, turned, and with his eyes welling up with emotion, rapidly exited the room.

There would be no curtain calls for Mr. Rothschild. A class act till the end, he had disappeared to go sailing in his beloved Atlantic off the Rhode Island coast.





## SPORTS AND MONEY

By Vladimir Vizner  
SolarD@aol.com



Today, most people have heard the cliché, "Sports is big business." But what is the meaning of this? Where is the logical conclusion of this statement?

Growing up in New York, I became a Jets fan at an early age. I grew up to accept disappointment every football season. With this year's atrocious team, I stopped my blind loyalty and began analyzing the bigger picture.

Here we have a team that continually comes up short. Every year is a rebuilding year. Yet, the people still come to the stadium. Paying hefty ticket prices and buying team merchandise, the fans continually support the team. Television ad revenues also continue to line the owners'



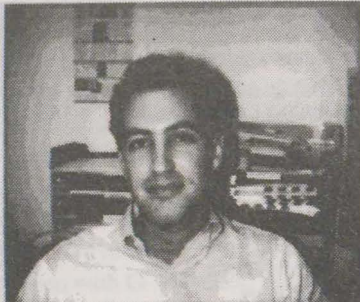
pockets.

True, with a winning team the Jets could make even more money, more recognition, national sales and even higher ticket prices. But why bother? The team is still making money now. The only thing offered to the team's fan base is the possibility of a better season next year. But to get a better team means an investment of money and effort. This would not even guarantee a championship. So why bother trying at the possibility of more money when the profit they are receiving now is good enough?

What I propose is to change the whole professional team system as it exists now. A system which allows mediocrity to flourish and failure to exist. Instead of having only one professional league which remains stagnant, I would establish two leagues--a major and a minor one. At the end of every season the bottom two teams in the major league would drop out into the minors while the top two minor league teams would enter the major league. There they would enjoy more prestige, more national attention and more money.

This idea is not new. Many countries have such systems in their sports. By having such a system, effort is rewarded. This is the American way. The best get to rise to the top. Otherwise we are forced to endure teams like the Jets who have no incentive to really improve--just like the days of the Iron Curtain where a paycheck was guaranteed no matter what kind of work product was put out. The time has come for this final wall to come tumbling down as well.

## Movie Review



By Jason D. Krauss

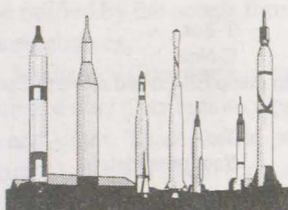
4 gavels--great, don't miss it  
3 gavels--good, worth seeing  
2 gavels--mediocre at best, wait for video  
1 gavel--avoid at all costs

**FIERCE CREATURES** Starring John Cleese, Jamie Lee Curtis, Kevin Kline and Michael Palin.

That's right, the cast of 1988's hugely popular *A Fish Called Wanda* is back. Unfortunately, I can't say this movie follows up nicely. John Cleese plays the bumbling head of an English Zoo, recently acquired by a stubborn billionaire, played by Kevin Kline. Kline also plays the billionaire's screwball son, Vince. Vince and a stunning new executive, played by Jamie Lee Curtis, are sent to oversee that the zoo increases profits by 20%. The plan is to rid the zoo of all tame animals and only house fierce creatures, as this is what will attract customers. Vince arranges ridiculous sponsorships, ranging from a Bruce Springsteen pet tortoise to an Absolut Fierce Tiger.

Don't get me wrong, I am a fan of slapstick, physical comedy. I love Kramer and will lose it every time Chris Farley falls through a table. However, *Fierce Creatures* was just a little too over the top. Kevin Kline, incredibly funny in *A Fish Called Wanda*, was spastically annoying in his role as Vince. He seemed to be jumping around and yelling for most of the movie, as he tried to bed his co-worker (Jamie Lee Curtis). John Cleese, best known for his Monty Python movies, did produce at least a few laughs, as he desperately tried to hold onto his job and please the zoo keepers. There were several enjoyable scenes reminiscent of excerpts from *The Holy Grail* and *A Fish Called Wanda*. I guess my main problem was that you saw the jokes coming from a mile away. One particular dead body gag, made me feel as though I was watching Weekend At Bernie's 3. At other times I thought I was trapped in a bad Three's Company episode (wait a second, were there ever any good episodes?) Expectations are everything when you go to see a flick, and it is possible mine were too high. I wanted more of *A Fish Called Wanda*, but didn't get it. All in all, wait for video.

2.5 gavels



## Poetry Corner

TOLERANCE

(Inspired by tales of the disciplinary beating of children)

Children are like wildflowers blown by the wind,  
Needing to be guided and disciplined -  
Not by force, power and command -  
Rather by love, and a helping hand.

Respect is not won by force of will;  
As you show respect, so shall you receive;  
Respect is won by faith and trust  
And doing what is right and just.

It is only by tolerance and loving care  
Can we endear to the hearts we hold dear;  
Teaching independence as far as can be;  
Extending a helping hand only in need.

WHAT GOD IS TO ME

God is all of nature in disguise  
From the Earth up to the skies.  
The summer's sun, the winter's freeze,  
The rivers, mountains and the trees.

God is the power of the human mind,  
The power of the will to survive;  
God is the courage to conquer fear;  
God is love of all we hold dear.

God is the air we breathe;  
God is wisdom and understanding;  
God is all - great and small - in kind;  
God is creation of all mankind.

BE CONTENT

If more people were as content as me,  
How much better their world would be;  
Despite cares and woes confronting me,  
I try to not let them get the best of me.

The more you fret, the worse you get;  
Be content - accept whatever fate as meant;

Sad times may cause a tear or two;  
Your state of mind will see you through.

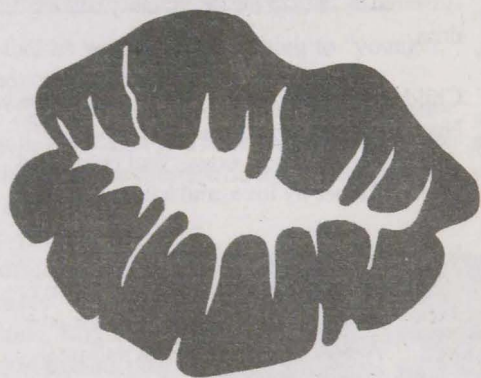
Look around you, we all get a share;  
Perhaps there is someone needing care;  
By helping others, you will feel greater joy;  
If you like yourself, others will like you more.

Bebe Dorsen

Article  
Submission  
Deadline for the  
March Issue  
is Friday,  
February 28



# VALENTINE GREETINGS



## Continued from Page 11

To: Nicole, Ilise, and Shawn

From: Kris

You are awesome! XO

To: Noush

From: Tart & Fruit

Congratulations on your engagement - love the ring!

To: NT

From: Mr. Frosty

I'm lonely and cold - please keep me warm.

To: NYLS Community

From: The Almighty Ones

Get over yourselves. We are all gay in God's eyes. Now work the camaraderie

To: Owen Wallace

From: Secret Admirer

You make me want to 1) change my schedule to fit yours, and 2) not graduate yet, frankly!

To: Peggy Sanchez

From: Stella

Good luck this semester and don't worry about the "Deaf man"! I'm here for you!!

To: Peludo

From: Sucia

Espero que nunca me despierte de este lindo sueño.

To: Pierre

From: Lisa

When you kissed me our souls became one. I love you.

To: Poppa

From: 1/2 pint

When do we get the strobe light? I want one soon, U2?

To: Prof. Gross

From: Baume & Mercier dealer

Thanks for the free advertising

To: Prof. Kahn

From: A thankful student

You'll never know how valuable your support was to me. Thank You!

To: Prof. Gross

From: Your biggest fan

Thanks for resurrecting my law school career and confidence

To: Prof. Simon

From: Fia

Thanks for a great class!

To: Puppet Master

From: Squirrel

My nuts are running low

To: Rafaat

From: R

I want to discuss Con Law with you - NAKED

To: Ratboy

From: ?

Have a heart and be nice to Kitty!

To: Richard Resch

From: Your Fling

You are one red-hot lover!

To: Robert Sisca

From: The president, vice president, & secretary of your fan club. We will miss being in your presence everyday next year! It was a great 3 years.

To: Roomie

From: Lisa

You have approximately 7 1/2 months to give me the pleasure of hearing giggles coming from your room.

To: S, L, L, & H

From: Mim

The answer is C. Love!

To: Sabrina & Jill

From: Kelly

Bosley lost his facial hair & Charlie is full of (bleep)! I love you guys!! Cigarettes forever!

To: Sali

From: Secret Admirer

I would just love to take a Sali-Nap with you. XOXO

To: Sally H.

From: The Wizard

Thanks for being so wonderful. You R the best.

To: Sally Harding

From: JLSA

Thanks for all your help in making our last event such a success

To: Sally Harding

From: 3L

For all of your help, once again - THANK YOU!

To: Stef

From: Sweater Boy

Join me in a cardigan made for two

To: Steve Nahley

From: ?

Show me your Macanudo and I'll be your Te Amo!

To: Stu

From: The two of them

Say hello to my little friend

To: Sueanne

From: Andrew

Thank you for your love and patience. Without your support and encouragement a J.D. is not only unattainable, it is unfathomable. Happy Valentine's Day!

To: T.V.

From: Y.M.

You sexy devil - I bow before your awesome superiority

To: T.V.

From: I've finally learned the alphabet; it's time for my next lesson!

To: T-Boz

From: C-Note

It's time to dump EZ-Ed and move to Carl Country!

To: Tae

From: Your prom date

You are sweet

To: Taurean D.

From: Mommy

Children are an inheritance from God, therefore I am richly blessed

To: Terryanne

From: Wayne

You are my heart & I love you eternally

To: The rockum, sockum hard core chicks of L7

From: Leslie

I know, I know - chicks is so un-p.c. Sorry! Thanks for lovin' me for who I am over the past 3 years. I am actually going to miss somethings. We are all going to blow the bar scores off the charts. Don't ever forget I love you!



To: The Wizard

From: P. Esq.

You'll always be my wizard - I'm not lion.

To: The Bay-bee

From: Mr. Magoo

Happy 25th! I'm so happy to be your Valentine. Lucky me. You're the best.

To: Tony Vino

From: Jayne & Leslie

We're so glad you're our friend

To: Tony Vino

From: Timid Tabby

Have you finished that doughnut yet? Ready for the main course?

To: Tyrsa & Lesa

From: Leslie

Thanks for all the incite. Please keep in touch. Good luck.

To: Valerie Armstrong-Barrows (Mom)

From: Li'l Barry, Chris, Wayne, & Sheba

Happy Valentine's Day, Mom. May your day be filled with chocolate & roses

To: Valerie Armstrong-Barrows

From: Barry

To my wife, who's also my girl, my best friend, my everything - Happy Valentine's Day

To: Vincent

From: you know me

You're the biggest sweetheart I've ever met. Maybe we will have our chance very soon.

To: Weaver

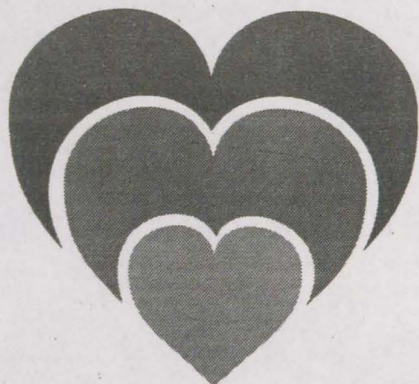
From: Ace

You're the best - let's renew our lease

To: You guys

From: Jo

From Vermont to the Jersey shore, Mickey Mouse to Pearl Jam, Bear Bar to Kelly's. Great friends, a beer, & many laughs = lifelong memories. Show me the money! You guys, I love you!!





# SECRETS OF THE CONSTITUTION

## Notes of Debates in the Federal Convention of 1787: Reported by James Madison

By Hansen Alexander

*(The following article, which will run as a three-part series and which will conclude in our April issue, was originally published in the quarterly journal, The Middle Class Review. Because our Con Law classes mostly teach us textual analysis, we have very little historical background to guide our analyses. The little historical background in the courses comes mostly from the Federalist Papers, the sales document composed by Hamilton and Madison to sell the Constitution to the states and which, in my view, greatly exaggerates the power that the founders expected the states to have. While conservative readers may disagree with my conclusions, including the limitations I impugn to original intent, I believe the notes will assist them in using the original intent method of constitutional interpretation. The articles are intended to stimulate interest in reading Madison's notes.)*

### Part 1: WHY OUR FOUNDERS WANTED TO WRITE A CONSTITUTION

The United States is the oldest enduring republic in the history of the world because it has mediated its disputes, frustrations, and conflicting aspirations through its legal system. The foundation of that legal system is The Constitution of the United States.

The Constitution was written in strict secrecy from May 17 to September 16, 1787. So seriously did the framers worry about the secrecy of the proceedings that they decided on May 29 that "nothing spoken in the House be printed, or otherwise published or communicated" and they voted on the final day to determine whether to burn the notes of the debates or give them to the safe keeping of the President of the Constitutional Convention, George Washington. Fortunately for future generations, the delegates voted to give the notes to Washington for safekeeping.

James Madison, who took these notes of the daily proceedings of the Convention, was the driving force behind the Constitution, shaping the document through common sense, negotiation, and his expertise in constitutional history. The notes were eventually presented to Madison, apparently upon Washington's death. The notes were not published until 1840, and then only as part of Madison's collected papers.

Think of the constitutional implications of this. Our earliest Supreme Court justices did not have these valuable notes to guide their shaping of constitutional history.

## Benjamin Franklin and George Washington, American icons, played important roles by their very physical presence at the convention.

Madison was 36 years old when he shepherded the greatest legal document ever composed through the twists and turns of heated debate, imprinting the delicate balance between

power and liberty upon a fledgling, insecure nation. He was 89 when his Constitutional notes were made public.

Madison's study of ancient and modern confederations led him to conclude that their decisive fault lay in the "inadequate powers of the federal authority over its member states."

The framers had been called to Philadelphia in a crisis; the post-revolutionary, decentralized, limited government known as the Articles of Confederation had proved a complete failure.

In his 1840 preface to the published notes, Madison outlined the failures of the Articles of Confederation. First, the Articles provided "expressly for the event of a return of the Colonies to a connection with G. Britain." This concept was incompatible with the aims of the revolution and the 100 years of democratic experience in the states.

Second, the various states were engaged in endless territorial disputes without a procedure for resolution. States taxed the citizens of other states. Attempts to give Congress the authority to solve these problems failed. State governments neither paid their federal taxes nor paid any attention to federal law. There was no means of dealing with the large national debt accumulated in fighting the Revolutionary War. (At the time of the Constitutional Convention the national debt was \$70,000,000, a staggering amount in 1787.)

While most states developed ruses to avoid their federal financial obligations, New Jersey loudly and defiantly said it would not meet its obligations. Treaties with other countries and Indian nations could not be enforced. States printed money without regard for its true value. The authority of the United States had lost all confidence and credit abroad.

## "It has been one of our greatest misfortunes that the great objects of the nation had been sacrificed constantly to local views."

The new nation was crippled, Madison writes, by "the rapid growth of anarchy" and the "animosity kindled among the States by their conflicting regulations."

Madison's work significantly revised the Articles of Confederation rule that gave each state one vote in Congress to proportional representation in Congress according to population. Thus was created the House of Representatives.

On July 6, Benjamin Franklin stated the principle that would place the initiation of all revenue bills in Congress into the hands of the House: money affairs were to be confined to the immediate representatives of the people. Senator Robert Byrd's crusade against the line item veto is therefore a just one, for the line item veto is a grievous violation of this principle that revenue policies must be ratified by the people through the House of Representatives.

Madison's Constitution, to call it what it is, required a dual distribution of powers between nation and states. There should be, however, no mistaking Madison's intent for a strong, central-



ized, federal authority, with a national legislature having "the power to veto state laws." As Gouverneur Morris observed during the debates, "It has been one of our greatest misfortunes that the great objects of the nation had been sacrificed constantly to local views."

"We are not to consider the federal Union analogous to the social compact of individuals," Madison wrote, "for if it were so, a Majority would have a right to bind the rest." Luther Martin concurred, "The General Government ought to be formed for the States, not for individuals." Roger Sherman said, "The question is not what rights naturally belong to men, but how they may be most equally and effectually guarded in Society."

Pennsylvania's James Wilson declared, "The great fault of the existing confederacy is its inactivity. It has never been a complaint against Congress that they governed overmuch. The complaint has been that they have governed too little. To remedy this defect we were sent here."

Libertarians and others presently enamored with Jeffersonian utopian concepts of guild businesses, local volunteerism, and less government to solve complex problems should not cite Mr. Madison's handicraft.

Jefferson, then serving as Minister to France, did not attend the Convention. His role would be limited to joining George Mason in arguing for the addition of the Bill of Rights to the Constitution. A motion to add a bill of rights to the main body of the Constitution was defeated 5-5.

Virginia had the largest population in 1787, and Madison and his fellow Virginians, George Mason and Edmund Randolph, were the dominant voices at the convention. Other major players in the Constitutional Convention were Elbridge Gerry, Rufus King and Nathaniel Gorham of Massachusetts, Gouverneur Morris and James Wilson of Pennsylvania, William Paterson of New Jersey, Charles Pinckney, Pierce Butler and John Rutledge of South Carolina, Roger Sherman and Oliver Ellsworth of Connecticut, John Dickinson and Gunning Bedford of Delaware, and Abraham Baldwin of Georgia.

Alexander Hamilton played an important role behind the scenes in the committees that hammered out agreements, but he seldom addressed the formal sessions and therefore seldom appears in Madison's notes. John Adams, serving as Minister to England, missed the Convention as well, even though he was the author of a huge study of colonial governments, *Constitutions of Governments of the United States*.

Benjamin Franklin and George Washington, American icons, played important roles by their very physical presence at the convention. Franklin was the symbol of native U.S. wisdom. Washington's role as president of the convention was a daily reminder that he provided the young country and the delegates "assurance that the Convention was to be the decisive effort in winning the self-government promised throughout the Revolutionary struggle."





**NEW YORK SUMMER 1997 LOCATION INFORMATION**  
(ALL LOCATIONS BEGIN 5/29 & ARE VIDEO UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED)

ALBANY	Albany Law School - (Begins 5/28)	9AM/1:30PM/6PM
ANN ARBOR, MI	Univ. of Michigan Law School	9AM
ATLANTA, GA	TENTATIVE	
BERKELEY, CA	UC Berkeley - Boalt Hall School of Law	1:30PM
BOSTON, MA	Boston Univ. School of Law - (Begins 5/28)	9AM/1:30PM/6PM
BRISTOL, RI	TENTATIVE	
BROOKLYN	Brooklyn Law School	9AM/1:30PM/6PM
BUFFALO	SUNY at Buffalo School of Law	9AM/1:30PM/6PM
CAMBRIDGE, MA	Harvard Law School - (Begins 5/28)	9AM/1:30PM
CAMDEN, NJ	TENTATIVE	
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA	DEFINITE - location to be announced	9AM
CHICAGO, IL		
1) HYDE PARK	Univ. of Chicago Law School	9AM
2) GOLD COAST	Northwestern Law School	9AM
CONCORD, NH	Franklin Pierce Law Center	9AM
DANBURY, CT	TENTATIVE	
DURHAM, NC	Duke University School of Law	9AM
HAMDEN, CT	Quinnipiac College School of Law	9AM
HARTFORD, CT	Univ. of Hartford	9AM/6PM
HEMPSTEAD	Hofstra Univ. School of Law - (Begins 5/28)	9AM/1:30PM/6PM
ITHACA	Cornell Law School	9AM/1:30PM
LOS ANGELES, CA	BAR/BRI Office - 3280 Motor Avenue	1:30PM
MANHATTAN		
1) DOWNTOWN	NYU Law School	9AM/1:30PM
2) MIDTOWN	A - Eastside - Loews New York Hotel - 569 Lexington (at 51st St.)	6PM
	B - Westside -	
	(1) Town Hall - 43rd St. (bet. 6th Ave. & B'way) - (Begins 5/21)	9:30AM (LIVE)
	(2) BAR/BRI Lecture Hall - 1500 B'way (at 43rd St.)	9AM/1:30PM/6PM
3) UPTOWN	Columbia Law School	9AM
4) WALL STREET AREA	Marriott Financial Center - 85 West Street	6PM
MIAMI, FL	TENTATIVE	
MONMOUTH CTY, NJ	Holiday Inn - 700 Hope Road - Tinton Falls	1:30PM
MONTREAL, CAN.	McGill Univ. - Old Chancellor Day Hall	9AM
NEWARK, NJ	Seton Hall Law School - (Begins 5/28)	9AM/1:30PM/6PM
NEW HAVEN, CT	Colony Inn - 1157 Chapel Street	9AM
NEW ORLEANS, LA	Tulane Law School	9AM
NEWTON, MA	Boston College Law School - (Begins 5/28)	9AM
PALO ALTO, CA	Stanford Law School	1:30PM
PHILADELPHIA, PA	International House - 3701 Chestnut St.	9AM
POUGHKEEPSIE	Vassar College	9AM
QUEENS COUNTY		
1) FLUSHING	CUNY Law School - (Begins 5/28)	9AM
2) JAMAICA	St. John's Univ. Law School - (Begins 5/28)	9AM/1:30PM/6PM
ROCHESTER	Radisson Hotel - 175 Jefferson Rd.	9AM
ROCKLAND COUNTY	Nanuet Inn - 260 West Route 59	9AM
SO. ROYALTON, VT	Vermont Law School	1:30PM
SPRINGFIELD, MA	WNEC School of Law	9AM
STATEN ISLAND	Wagner College	9AM
SUFFOLK COUNTY		
1) HAMPTONS/RIVERHEAD AREA	DEFINITE - location to be announced - (Begins 5/28)	9AM
2) HUNTINGTON	Touro College of Law - (Begins 5/28)	9AM/1:30PM/6PM
SYRACUSE	Syracuse Univ. College of Law	9AM/1:30PM/6PM
TORONTO, CAN.	Ontario Driving Training Center - 20 Eglinton Ave. East	9AM
WASHINGTON, DC	American Univ. Law School - TENTATIVE - (Begins 5/28)	1:30PM
	GW Law School - (Begins 5/28)	9AM/6PM
	Georgetown Law Center - (Begins 5/28)	1:30PM
WHITE PLAINS	Pace Univ.	9AM/1:30PM/6PM

PLEASE NOTE: BAR/BRI RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ALTER LOCATION STARTING  
DATES AND TIMES BASED UPON LOCATION AVAILABILITY.